

## Union Calendar No. 459

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4285

[Report No. 108-741]

To provide for the conveyance of certain public land in Clark County, Nevada,  
for use as a heliport.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2004

Mr. GIBBONS (for himself, Mr. PORTER, and Ms. BERKLEY) introduced the  
following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

OCTOBER 6, 2004

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union  
and ordered to be printed

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## A BILL

To provide for the conveyance of certain public land in Clark  
County, Nevada, for use as a heliport.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY TO CLARK COUN-**  
4       **TY, NEVADA.**

5       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1           (1) the Las Vegas Valley in the State of Ne-  
2           vada is the fastest growing community in the United  
3           States;

4           (2) helicopter tour operations are conflicting  
5           with the needs of long-established residential com-  
6           munities in the Valley; and

7           (3) the designation of a public heliport in the  
8           Valley that would reduce conflicts between helicopter  
9           tour operators and residential communities is in the  
10          public interest.

11          (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide  
12          a suitable location for the establishment of a commercial  
13          service heliport facility to serve the Las Vegas Valley in  
14          the State of Nevada while minimizing and mitigating the  
15          impact of air tours on the Sloan Canyon National Con-  
16          servation Area and North McCullough Mountains Wilder-  
17          ness.

18          (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

19               (1) CONSERVATION AREA.—The term “Con-  
20               servation Area” means the Sloan Canyon National  
21               Conservation Area established by section 604(a) of  
22               the Clark County Conservation of Public Land and  
23               Natural Resources Act of 2002 (116 Stat. 2010).

24               (2) COUNTY.—The term “County” means Clark  
25               County, Nevada.

1 (3) HELICOPTER TOUR.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “helicopter  
3 tour” means a commercial helicopter tour oper-  
4 ated for profit.

5 (B) EXCLUSION.—The term “helicopter  
6 tour” does not include a helicopter tour that is  
7 carried out to assist a Federal, State, or local  
8 agency.

9 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
10 the Secretary of the Interior.

11 (5) WILDERNESS.—The term “Wilderness”  
12 means the North McCullough Mountains Wilderness  
13 established by section 202(a)(13) of the Clark Coun-  
14 ty Conservation of Public Land and Natural Re-  
15 sources Act of 2002 (116 Stat. 2000).

16 (d) CONVEYANCE.—As soon as practicable after the  
17 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey  
18 to the County, subject to valid existing rights, for no con-  
19 sideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States  
20 in and to the parcel of land described in subsection (e).

21 (e) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The parcel of land to  
22 be conveyed under subsection (d) is the parcel of approxi-  
23 mately 229 acres of land depicted as tract A on the map  
24 entitled “Clark County Public Heliport Facility” and  
25 dated May 3, 2004.

1 (f) USE OF LAND.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The parcel of land conveyed  
3 under subsection (d)—

4 (A) shall be used by the County for the op-  
5 eration of a heliport facility under the condi-  
6 tions stated in paragraphs (2) and (3); and

7 (B) shall not be disposed of by the County.

8 (2) IMPOSITION OF FEES.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—Any operator of a heli-  
10 copter tour originating from or concluding at  
11 the parcel of land described in subsection (e)  
12 shall pay to the Clark County Department of  
13 Aviation a \$3 conservation fee for each pas-  
14 senger on the helicopter tour if any portion of  
15 the helicopter tour occurs over the Conservation  
16 Area.

17 (B) DISPOSITION OF FUNDS.—Any  
18 amounts collected under subparagraph (A) shall  
19 be deposited in a special account in the Treas-  
20 ury of the United States, which shall be avail-  
21 able to the Secretary, without further appro-  
22 priation, for the management of cultural, wild-  
23 life, and wilderness resources on public land in  
24 the State of Nevada.

1           (3) FLIGHT PATH.—Except for safety reasons,  
2           any helicopter tour originating or concluding at the  
3           parcel of land described in subsection (e) that flies  
4           over the Conservation Area shall not fly—

5                   (A) over any area in the Conservation Area  
6                   except the area that is between 3 and 5 miles  
7                   north of the latitude of the southernmost  
8                   boundary of the Conservation Area;

9                   (B) lower than 1,000 feet over the eastern  
10                  segments of the boundary of the Conservation  
11                  Area; or

12                  (C) lower than 500 feet over the western  
13                  segments of the boundary of the Conservation  
14                  Area.

15           (4) REVERSION.—If the County ceases to use  
16           any of the land described in subsection (d) for the  
17           purpose described in paragraph (1)(A) and under  
18           the conditions stated in paragraphs (2) and (3)—

19                   (A) title to the parcel shall revert to the  
20                   United States, at the option of the United  
21                   States; and

22                   (B) the County shall be responsible for any  
23                   reclamation necessary to revert the parcel to  
24                   the United States.

1       (g) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary shall  
2 require, as a condition of the conveyance under subsection  
3 (d), that the County pay the administrative costs of the  
4 conveyance, including survey costs and any other costs as-  
5 sociated with the transfer of title.



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2<sup>D</sup> Session

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